

REMARKS

A petition to extend the time for response by three (3) months is enclosed herewith.

Claim 10 has been amended. Claims 10 – 18 are currently pending in the present application.

In the Office Action, claims 10 -18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jacobs US Patent No. 3,068,877.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendment of claim 10 and the following comments.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the opportunity to discuss the present application on August 19, 2008. During that discussion, Applicants noted that an amendment of claim 10 would be provided to further clarify the present invention.

Claim 10 of the present application as currently amended recites a dishwasher having a washing basket and a conduit system connected to the washing basket in an air-guiding manner such that air is guided from the washing basket to the conduit system and air is guided from the conduit system to the washing basket. As recited in claim 10, the conduit system includes a cold side portion and a hot side portion and including at least one heat tube having a pair of ends. Also, one of the ends of the heat tube extends into the cold side portion of the conduit system and the other end of the heat tube extends into the hot side portion of the conduit system. As further recited in claim 10, the conduit system is operable to guide air from the washing basket through the cold side portion, whereupon the one end of the heat tube promotes a cooling of air in the cold side portion of the conduit system with a resultant condensing of moisture out of the cooled air, to

thereafter guide cooled air from the cold side portion to the warm side portion, whereupon the other end of the heat tube promotes heating of the air in the hot side portion of the conduit system, and to thereafter guide such heated air from the warm side portion to the washing container. The heat tube operates to conduct heat from its one end extending into the cold portion of the conduit system to its other end extending into the hot portion of the conduit system with the one end of the heat tube receiving heat from air guided therepast at the cold side portion of the conduit system and conducting such received heat to its other end.

It is submitted that the dishwasher recited in claim 10 of the present application as currently amended is neither taught nor disclosed by Jacobs US Patent No. 3,068,877. The dishwasher of Jacobs uses only a standard or ordinary external vapor duct or conduit 74 with an inside fan or impeller 104 for circulation of air. The duct 24 has a condenser inlet opening 76 and a condenser outlet opening 78 leading from and to the dishwashing chamber 18, respectively. Cooling air is provided by the condenser 60 from the atmosphere surrounding the dishwasher 10. In operation of the fan 104 the fan or impeller 104 will cause a moisture-laden vapor to be withdrawn from the dishwashing chamber 18 into the condenser 60 of the air duct 74. Outside this part of the duct 74 heat transfer fins 77 and 90 cause condensing of moisture from the circulating vapor inside the duct 74. This moisture will fall by gravity to the lower wall 80 of duct 74 and will flow into the chamber 18 and consequently into a sump 20.

Thus, it can readily be seen that Jacobs US Patent No. 3,068,877 does not teach or suggest a dishwasher having a washing basket and a conduit system with the conduit system having a heat tube operable to conduct heat from one end extending into the cold portion of the conduit system to another end extending into a hot portion of the conduit system with the one end of the heat tube receiving heat from air guided therepast at the cold side portion of the conduit system and conducting such received heat to its other end.

Therefore, claim 10 as currently amended is allowable. Claims 11 - 18 depend from claim 10 and are allowable for the same reasons and also because they recite additional patentable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of claims 10 – 18 are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Respectfully submitted,



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January 7, 2009

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